

SB 196 –Written Testimony Submitted to Senate Judiciary (as of 4/29/22)

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I am writing in strong opposition to SB 196.

Our children and our educational system is strongest when all topics can be discussed and learned about openly. The history of this country and every country is complex and messy. We do our children a disservice when we try to exclude aspects of history and aspects of our current society - especially things that are difficult to talk about.

Race and gender are two topics that people interface with on a daily basis - limiting education and discussion of these topics does our kids a disservice. When censorship is on the table - you need to think long and hard about why - ignoring history and ignoring hard and complex issues is no way to move forward.

Susan Willsrud

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I am writing you in support of SB 196. There is no mistaking the relevant importance of the concise language. The proponents of particular ideological frames are intent on pursuing what amounts to systemic influence upon our youth, and the public schools are being used increasingly as a vehicle for such. We need specific language in statute, defining proper boundaries, to help ensure that K-12 education is not used to facilitate inappropriate or arbitrary instruction without full disclosure and parental oversight.

Respectfully,

Herder Winkelman

Fox, AK

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I am adamantly opposed to the passage of SB196. As a 30 year retired teacher from the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District I see this bill as completely unnecessary. Please do NOT reply pass SB 196.

Joanne Barnes

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Dear Chairman Holland and Committee Members,

I am Gabrielle Ide and I am speaking for myself. I support SB196. I am very concerned that compelled speech is creeping into public school culture. I already have my children homeschooling with the exception of two elective classes, because the school district's core curriculum isn't benefiting my sons. However, the current climate inside public brick and mortar schools in ASD has caused me to reconsider my position on those elective classes. The school environment no longer feels like a safe place for my children at all.

More transparency in education, training and curriculum would go a long way in building that trust back. Treating my sons like humans full of potential and creativity, instead of white privileged males who should apologize for existing, would go a long way to build trust in the ASD.

Our community will not benefit from the NEA's take on CRT.

Please pass SB196

Thank you,

Gabrielle Ide

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To the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I do not in any way support the passage of SB 196. These bills have been popping up all across the US and are an attempt to go back to Reconstruction. As Stephen Hopkins the representative from Rhode Island was quoted as saying in the show 1776 "Well in all my years I ain't never heard, seen nor smelled an issue that was so dangerous it couldn't be talked about. Hell yeah! I'm for debating anything."

We cannot go back. We are at a point in our history where it is beyond imperative that we move toward the truth and stop "white-washing" or history. We need to acknowledge the beauty of our diversity of people and extend to ALL the respect that they each are entitled to.

Do NOT vote in support of this bill.

Nathan Feemster

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Do NOT vote in support of this bill.

Mary Calmes

Fairbanks, AK

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I urge you to oppose SB 196.

Diversity awareness/appreciation is important for all citizens, especially teachers and students.

Thank you.

Jeff Adams

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Dear Senate Judiciary committee,

Please support SB 196!

This is gravely important to all parents in this state with very few exceptions. I have canvassed numerous friends, family, neighbors and acquaintances. I’ve yet to meet a single person that is not adamantly opposed to any type of these ridiculous principles and tenants of critical race theory, also known as Diversity, Equity and Inclusion! We do not want our children indoctrinated by anyone or any system.

I could not even fathom why our clueless School Board chose who they did for our new Superintendent. I felt physically ill and utterly defeated. They truly are ignorant to what Anchorage parents really want.

ASD already has an enormous job in front of them to re-learn how to teach the basics in education and do the job they were hired to do. They are FAILING the children and their parents! How else do you explain the mass exodus from our public school system?

You MUST LISTEN to your constituents and get this bill passed.

Otherwise, there will be thousands of us pushing for a constitutional convention where we will rewrite our Alaska constitution and get our public school system under control through constitutional amendments.

Be careful with the power WE have given you.

Margaret Kircher

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Dear Senate committees,

This is a time in American history that we must stand for what is good and right. There is an extremely well organized plan to flood the public schools around the nation with curricula that is intended to break down individual children and their families. The end goal is to destroy the family as an institution and instill ideas that are Marxists. Perhaps you have heard.

This phenomena is providing division among communities and in fact our culture as a whole. Your duty to your constituents is to become educated about each of these ideologies, including Social and Emotional Learning, Critical Race Theory, Comprehensive Sex Education, and Queer Ideology. This is not a conspiracy theory but a very real agenda to break down all that is good and innocent in our communities.

I've attached a document which will educate you about Critical Race Theory specifically.

Please become familiar with James Lindsay, an intellectual and scholar has provided extensive educational presentations breaking down these principles and assumptions that are being pushed out by the advocates for these ideologies. His work can be found on [www.newdiscourses.com](http://www.newdiscourses.com)

I urge you to educate yourself, so you can be strengthened by the knowledge you obtain. The truth is, that you will be held accountable for what you do in regards to these issues because the young generations coming up in age will be affected by the decisions being made today.

The family unit is the center of a culture and the stability of the future depends on a healthy family.

Please vote to pass this bill, SB196, in order to honor the rights and responsibilities afforded parents, in the upbringing of their own children.

Thank you for your consideration.

With respect,

Priscilla Hurley

Anchorage, AK

**Attachment:**

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## **What is Critical Race Theory (CRT)**

Critical Race Theory (CRT) is a neo-Marxist-type ideology that replaces the Marxist idea of class conflict between capitalists and workers with the idea of racial conflict. It is a distinctively American invention developed in academia and has no scientific validation. This racist, discriminatory, divisive, and self-flagellating ideology is metastasizing throughout America's

corporations, medical facilities, the military, educational institutions, and most disturbingly, in our K-12 schools.

The central tenets of CRT include:

1. A person is *judged* by the color of their skin not their character (a reversal of MLK Jr.'s philosophy).
2. A person's *identity* is based primarily on the color of one's skin.
3. People are not seen as individuals but rather as members of a racial category. A person's behavior, values, talents, soul, feelings, thoughts, and environment are not defining traits. Hence, stereotypes and assumption about people are based primarily on their skin color.
4. Society is divided into a race of permanent *oppressors* (white people) and races who are *oppressed* (people of color). Asian and white Hispanics are labeled "white adjacent."
5. All white people, and only white people, are *intrinsically* and *permanently* racist.
6. The regime of white supremacy and privilege is maintained despite the rule of law and the constitutional guarantee of equal protection under the law.
7. Any success and achievement of a white person is attributed solely to white privilege and comes at the expense of people of color.
8. White people judge non-white *consciously* or *unconsciously* (*implicit bias*) by the color of their skin. Any criticism of CRT or denial of racism is proof of racism.
9. People of color can't be racist, but those who repudiate CRT are condemned and stigmatized as "Uncle Toms."
10. The United States is an *inherently* and *fundamentally* racist society steeped in white supremacy culture.
11. The United States is illegitimate because it was founded on slavery, murder, and racist principles. Hence, the United States is systemically racist.
12. Racism is always present and can be found in all interactions and in every institution. Racism is ingrained in American political, legal. And educational structures.
13. Capitalism, white supremacy, and patriarchy are systems of domination resulting in structural inequality. These systems provide unearned privileges to whites at the expense of people of color.
14. It is not enough to be non-racist; one must be anti-racist.
15. Only those in the oppressed groups can define what is racist.

16. Principles of truth, objectivity, neutrality, merit-based system (meritocracy), colorblindness, rational, reasoning, science and math empiricism, as well as attributes such as individualism, hard work, punctuality, speaking proper English, having an intact nuclear family, and staying married are products of “Western civilization” and rooted in racism.
  17. *Storytelling* and *personal experience* are elevated over evidence and reason to validate the position of the oppressed.
  18. *Intersectionality* is a derivative of CRT, emphasizing multiple overlapping sources of oppression such as race, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, gender, class, and disability.
  19. *Euphemisms* are used to deceive and camouflage CRT, including *diversity*, *equity*, *inclusion* (often grouped as DEI), *anti-racism*, *social justice*, *cultural responsiveness*, and *racial sensitivity*.
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